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legality justified itself. It is a later phase of this same thought which he presents in the "Bride of the Mistletoe."*

It is the old question whether a forthright, sincere presentment of evil and analysis of its causes and results is or is not more wholesome than veiled excuses for it. The "Bride of the Mistletoe" is delicately and at times eloquently written, and the descriptions of Kentucky, the land of the author's birth and heart, are full of lovely vision.

It is a matter for wonder that Elizabethan plots have not more often been adapted to modern days and used. This Mr. Mills Young has done in "Chip."† The figure of the brave girl who in disguise as a boy accepts a position as overseer on a South-African plantation is charmingly drawn. The English misanthrope who is master of the plantation and whom she by degrees reforms, transforms and marries is a less agreeable character. The story is well written and full of fine description and has enough human nature to make it go.

The distinguishing quality of Mrs. Dudeney's writing is emotion.‡. She still writes with vehemence and vitality of human passion. Rachel Lorrian marries by mistake the wrong man. By a lucky chance there comes a time when she is free and might have married the supposedly right man, but alas! circumstances are complicated and she misses the opportunity. Rachel is clever, vivacious, epigrammatical, full of temperament, proud and unhappy. She is the type that by nature would furnish material for good drama. She is too difficult a blend of good and evil to make for a secure and pleasant domesticity and is justified by making an interesting if somewhat sad novel.

* "The Bride of the Mistletoe." By James Lane Allen. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1908.

† "Chip." By F. E. Mills Young. New York: John Lane Company, 1909.

‡ "Rachel Lorrian." By Mrs. Henry Dudeney. New York: Duffield & Co., 1909.